# Secondhand Smoke: Youth Exposure and Rules about Smoking in the Home

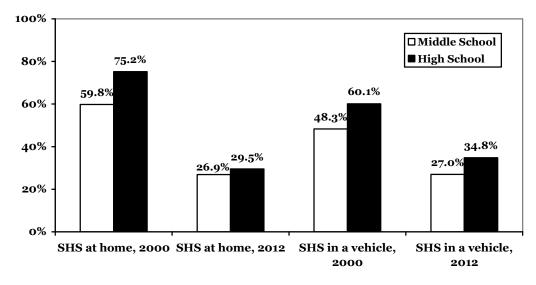
Each year in the United States, over 41,000 adult deaths are attributable to secondhand smoke exposure among nonsmokers. In Indiana, approximately 1,426 people die annually due to secondhand smoke exposure. Secondhand smoke has been classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a cancer causing substance. In children, secondhand smoke contributes to acute and chronic respiratory illness, asthma, middle ear illnesses, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

### Youth Exposure to Secondhand Smoke in Indiana

- The proportion of Indiana youth not exposed to secondhand smoke in the home has been increasing since 2000. In 2010, 46.3% high school students were not exposed and in 2012, 70.5% were not exposed, which represents a significant increase. Among Indiana middle school students, there was a significant increase in those not exposed to secondhand smoke in the home, as well. In 2010, 54.9% middle school students were not exposed and in 2012, 73.1% were not exposed.
- Nearly 30% of high school students and 27% of middle school students reported being exposed to secondhand smoke in their home on at least one day in the past week.
- Approximately 70% of high school students and 63% of middle school students who live with smokers reported being exposed to secondhand smoke in a vehicle on at least one day in the past week.

## Youth exposed to Secondhand Smoke at home or in a vehicle,



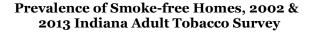


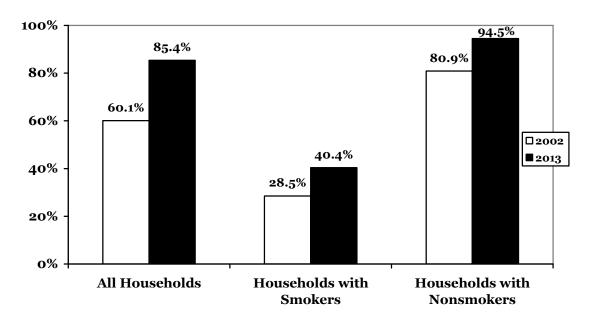
Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Commission~ <a href="https://www.in.gov/isdh/tpc">www.in.gov/isdh/tpc</a> ~ 317.234.1787</a> <a href="https://www.indianaquitline.net">www.indianaquitline.net</a>



#### **Household Rules**

- Among households with smokers, the prevalence of smoke-free homes increased from 29% in 2002 to 40% in 2013, according to the Indiana Adult Tobacco Survey.
- Among households with nonsmokers, the prevalence of smoke-free homes increased from 81% in 2002 to 95% in 2013.
- In 2013, approximately 63% of adults in Indiana believed that secondhand smoke is very harmful.
- In 2013, Hoosier nonsmokers were more likely to agree that secondhand smoke is a serious health hazard (69%) compared with Hoosiers who are current smokers (36%).





## What Can You Do?

- Institute and enforce strict no-smoking rules for your home and car.
- Encourage your children to ask others not to smoke around them.
- If you smoke, quitting will benefit not only your health but the health of your children. Call 1-800-OUIT-NOW or visit www.OuitNowIndiana.com for help.